

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended)      A method of selecting stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) in which, together with the video programs ( $S_i$ ) ~~their, respective~~ running time-times ( $t_{Di}$ ) of the video programs and, ~~if necessary, an~~ respective ~~information item-items~~ ( $I_i$ ) about the content, ~~for example the genre, of the respective video programs~~ are stored, wherein, ~~on the basis of a specified time duration~~ ( $\Delta T$ ), said method comprising the steps of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ multiplying the respective running times of the stored  
these video programs ( $S_i$ ) are automatically selected from the  
stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) whose running time ( $t_{Di}$ ) multiplied by  
any applicable compression factor ( $C_n$ ) thereby forming respective  
modified running times; and

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ selecting the video programs having respective modified  
running times is shorter than or equal to the a specified time  
duration ( $\Delta T$ ).

2. (Currently Amended)      A method of selecting stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) in which, with video programs ( $S_i$ ), ~~their respective~~ running time-times ( $t_{Di}$ ) and, ~~if necessary, an~~ respective ~~information item-items~~ ( $I_i$ ) about the content, ~~for example the~~

genre, of the respective video programs are stored, wherein said method comprising the steps of:

\_\_\_\_\_ multiplying the respective running times of the stored video programs by any applicable compression factor ( $C_n$ ) thereby forming respective modified running times;

\_\_\_\_\_ selecting, on the basis of a specified time duration ( $\Delta T$ ) up to a subsequent video program ( $S_F$ ) having specified transmission start ( $t_{F0}$ ) and an anticipated transmission end ( $t_{FE}$ ), ~~these video programs ( $S_n$ ) are automatically selected from the stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) whose running time ( $t_{Dn}$ ), multiplied by any applicable compression factor ( $C_n$ ) is having~~ respective modified running times shorter than or equal to N times the specified time duration ( $\Delta T$ ), where N is between 1 and 2; and

\_\_\_\_\_ playing back~~wherein~~ the subsequent video program ( $S_F$ ) ~~is played back with a time offset and in a compressed form so that the anticipated transmission end ( $t_{FE}$ ) of the subsequent video program is adhered to.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said method further comprises: combinations of

\_\_\_\_\_ forming combinations of a plurality of video programs ( $S_n$ )  
~~are automatically selected, wherein in which a the sum of the modified running time ( $t_{Dn}$ ), multiplied by any applicable~~

~~compression factor ( $C_n$ ) of each video program ( $S_n$ ) in the combination times is shorter than or equal to N times the specified time duration ( $\Delta T$ ), where N is between 1 and 2.~~

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, ~~said method further comprises the step of:~~

~~selecting, on the basis of an information item ( $I_B$ ) specified by a user, those video programs ( $S_G$ ) are selected from the selected video programs ( $S_n$ ) whose having respective content information ( $I_G$ ) corresponds corresponding to the user's requirement user-specified information item ( $I_B$ ).~~

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method as claimed in claim 2, wherein, ~~said method further comprises the step of:~~

~~selecting, on the basis of an information item ( $I_F$ ) of the subsequent video program ( $S_F$ ), those video programs ( $S_G$ ) are selected whose from the selected video programs having respective content information ( $I_G$ ) corresponds corresponding to the information item ( $I_F$ ) of the subsequent video program ( $S_F$ ).~~

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) contain at least one compression factor ( $C_i$ ).

7. (Currently Amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compression factor ( $C_i$ ) of a video program ( $S_i$ ) is applied during the storage of the video program ( $S_i$ ).

8. (Currently Amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compression factor ( $C_i$ ) of a video program ( $S_i$ ) takes place in a separate run after the storage of the video program ( $S_i$ ).

9. (Currently Amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of:  
\_\_\_\_\_the user enters-entering an identification code.

10. (Currently Amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the video programs ( $S_i$ ) are selected as a function of parameters assigned to the identification code.

11. (Currently Amended) A-The method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the parameters assigned to the identification code contain a selection of permissible content information items ( $I_i$ ).

12. (Currently Amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein a user's inputs are stored together with the identification code.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the video programs ( $S_i$ ) are selected as a function of the absolute time.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the applicable compression, if any, of the video programs ( $S_i$ ) takes place as a function of the running time of the video program ( $S_i$ ).

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the video program ( $S_i$ ) is compressed as a function of the information ( $I_i$ ) about the content, ~~for example the genre,~~ of the video program ( $S_i$ ).

16. (Currently Amended) A playback device ~~(1)~~ for video programs ( $S_i$ ), said playback device comprising: having \_\_\_\_\_ at least one memory device ~~(5)~~ for storing the video programs ( $S_i$ ) and ~~their~~ respective running times ( $t_{Di}$ ) of the video programs; and, ~~furthermore having~~ \_\_\_\_\_ a control unit ~~(12)~~ for the selection of ~~selecting~~ those video programs ( $S_n$ ) from the stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) whose running times ( $t_{Dn}$ ), when multiplied by any applicable compression factor ( $C_n$ ) ~~is,~~ are shorter than or equal to N times a specified time duration ( $\Delta T$ ), where the factor N is between 1 and 2.

17. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:  
\_\_\_\_\_ an input unit (11) is provided for the input of inputting  
the time duration ( $\Delta T$ ).

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:  
\_\_\_\_\_ a memory device (7) for storing information ( $I_i$ ) about the content, for example the genre, of the video programs ( $S_i$ ) ~~is provided that is, said memory device being connected to a the~~  
~~control unit (12) for the selection of selecting~~ those video programs ( $S_n$ ) from the selected video programs ( $S_n$ ) whose content information ( $I_G$ ) corresponds to a user's requirement ( $I_B$ ).

19. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, ~~having wherein~~ said playback device further comprises:  
\_\_\_\_\_ a memory device (8) for storing at least one compression factor ( $C_n$ ) assigned to the video programs ( $S_i$ ).

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:  
\_\_\_\_\_ an input unit (11) is provided for the entry of inputting a user identification code.

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ a database ~~(13)~~ ~~is provided for the storage of~~ storing an entered time duration ( $\Delta T$ ) associated with an identification code and, if necessary, input ( $I_B$ ) of an information item ( $I_i$ ) about the content of the video programs ( $S_i$ ).

22. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ a summing unit ~~(16)~~ ~~is provided, which summing unit (16)~~ ~~is connected to the control unit (12)~~.

23. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ at least one compression device ~~(14)~~ ~~is provided for the compression of~~ compressing the playback of a video program ( $S_i$ ).

24. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ a device ~~(15)~~ ~~is provided for selection of~~ selecting the method of compression of the video programs ( $S_i$ ).

25. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ at least one memory device ~~(17)~~ ~~is provided for the~~  
~~temporary storage of~~ temporarily storing video signals during  
playback.

26. (Currently Amended)     A ~~The~~ playback device ~~(1)~~ as claimed in  
claim 16, wherein said playback device further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ a timer ~~(18)~~ ~~is provided that is connected to the control~~  
unit ~~(12)~~.